

ONGOING SOCIAL WORK

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Key Issues:

- Measuring WORKLOAD not caseload
- Not enough resources to address complex family needs (i.e mental health, substance use, youth in-patient, foster parent support, and parent education programs. Also, most current programs are focused on prevention rather than addressing abuse/neglect that has already occurred or the impact of the abuse or neglect.)
- The child welfare system is not just DCF; we rely on our service providers, the court, attorneys, childcare providers, foster parents, community members, medical providers and others in almost all aspects of our work.
- Court Dockets, Public Defenders, as well as the State's Attorneys are backlogged and understaffed as well which affects timely permanency and adequate court preparation, and sometimes child safety!!
- Concern around 'Failure to Protect' law
- Differential response: Is it working? What are the numbers?

What is Going Well

- Teaming. This may look different between offices, but is essentially a way of owning and ensuring the work gets done, supporting one another, and being able to make decisions in partnership or from a team discussion, and not 'alone'.
- Quality staff. There are many educated and talented workers, supervisor, RCs, directors, and others who are doing this work and that have truly dedicated their lives to child safety.

(See REVERSE)